

HILLSDALE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes

The **Hillsdale County Planning Commission** convened in the Intermediate School District Conference Room, 310 W. Bacon Street, Hillsdale, Michigan, on Monday, March 16, 2009.

Members present: Ned Bever, Fred Fowler, Sarah Fronczak, Ken Lautzenheiser, Charlene Page, Brad Densmore, Robert Henthorne

Members absent: Debra Sikorski, Julie Kanouse

Others present: Jasneet Sharma, Deb Coffing

Call to Order: Ned Bever called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: *R. Henthorne moved to approve the Minutes of January 26, 2009. F. Fowler supported. Motion unanimously carried.*

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was amended by adding the following: Somerset Township Rezoning, Amboy Wastewater Project, Joint Training in April, MSU Survey, Secretary Letter, Board of Commissioners Presentation.

Public Comment: *William Bishop* addressed the draft County Planning Ordinance and stated that this doesn't address conflicts of interest on contracts. He is disappointed that there is nothing in the Ordinance related to contracts.

Agenda Items: *A PA-116 application (34.3 acres) for Darvan W. and Irma J. Schoenberger, Adams Township* was presented to the commission members for approval. *K. Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval of the application for inclusion. F. Fowler supported. Motion unanimously approved.*

A PA-116 application (58.85 acres) for Rodney Schoenberger, Wheatland Township was presented to the commission members for approval. There was discussion that a portion of this acreage may fall into commercial use on the future land use plan and map. *R. Henthorne moved to recommend approval of the application for inclusion with a note that the northwest corner has been identified as future land use commercial according to the County Land Use map. F. Fowler supported. Motion unanimously approved.*

S. Fronczak presented an *MSU Survey* (Potawatomi RC&D) asking for natural resources input on the survey for the Potawatomi RC&D Council's five-year plan which includes Hillsdale County.

A *Somerset Township Rezoning* request was reviewed, but was tabled until the April meeting due to not receiving the Township's information.

A letter referencing the *Amboy Wastewater Project* grant application was reviewed. This will be placed on the agenda for the April meeting.

A presentation before the Board of Commissioners was discussed for April. N. Bever, C. Page and F. Fowler with Jasneet's assistance will give an update of the County Planning Commission and the survey "Picture Hillsdale" results.

Jasneet discussed the *joint training session in April*. Michigan State University, County Planning Commission and City of Hillsdale will be presenting this workshop (Investing in Hillsdale County's Future) April 23rd at the Dow Center, Hillsdale College. D. Sikorski is providing refreshments; R. Henthorne is providing copies/copier. *K. Lautzenheiser moved that the Planning Commission would commit \$100 for travel expenses for the speaker. B. Densmore supported. Motion unanimously approved.*

A letter was received by the Planning Commission from the Board of Commissioners that stated Recording Secretary, Deb Coffing will no longer be doing the administrative work for the Planning Commission after April 30, 2009. *K. Lautzenheiser stated that a formal letter should be sent to the Board of Commissioners to address this. The letter should contain the number of estimated hours worked per month and details of what the position entails; further, a copy of the March minutes to be enclosed. R. Henthorne moved to send a formal letter to the Board of*

Commissioners Chair to further this position to the County Clerk's Office. C. Page supported. Motion unanimously approved.

Additional Business: The Prosecutor's Opinion reference the draft Planning Commission Ordinance was reviewed. *S. Fronczak moved to amend the draft Ordinance bringing it into compliance with the recommendation as rendered by the County Prosecutor's opinion, thus moving to address Sections 102C and 102H; Section 102.F.2.b should have the words "and/or" separating Farm Bureau and the United States Forest Service". R. Henthorne supported. Motion unanimously supported.* It was discussed that Section 102.A.2 referenced in number 2 in the Prosecutor's letter will be reviewed at the next Planning Commission meeting in April.

Communications: Copies of Farmland Development Rights Agreements and the City of Hillsdale Master Land Use Plan Amendment was distributed to the commission members for their review.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kanouse, Secretary

Recorded by: Deb Coffing, Executive Secretary, Board of Commissioners